

Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Applicants respectfully request admission of the foregoing amendment to place the application in condition for allowance by traversing the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1, 2, 8-14, and 18-21 are pending in the application, with claims 1 and 11 being the independent claims. Claims 1 and 11 are sought to be amended. Claims 3-5 and 15-17 are sought to be canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter and their entry is respectfully requested.

Based on the above amendment and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Telephonic Interview

Applicants and Applicants' representatives wish to thank Examiner Michelle K. Lay for the telephonic interview with the Applicants' representatives, Mr. Timothy A. Doyle and Ms. Haixia Du, on September 7, 2007.

During the interview, Applicants' representatives explained the claimed embodiments and distinguished these from the references that had been applied by the Examiner based upon, *inter alia*, the use by the claimed embodiments of data that defines just a bounding region of a geometry chunk rather than data associated with the whole geometry chunk.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-5 and 8-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,808,617 to Kenworthy *et al.* (hereinafter "Kenworthy") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,292,200 B1 to Bowen *et al.* (hereinafter "Bowen"). (See Office Action at p. 3.)

Regarding claims 3-5 and 15-17, Applicants have canceled these claims without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein, thereby rendering these rejections moot.

Regarding claims 1, 2, 8-14, and 18-21, Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections. Amended independent claim 1 recites (emphasis added):

A method for minimizing an amount of data needed to test a geometry chunk in a frame against subarea boundaries in a compositing window, comprising the steps of:

defining the geometry chunk with a bounding region, wherein ***said bounding region defines an outline of the geometry chunk***;

storing data that defines said bounding region for use in processing the geometry chunk in a subsequent frame;

sending said data that defines said bounding region to graphics pipelines;

determining, from said data that defines said bounding region, a graphics pipeline of said graphics pipelines that will render the geometry chunk;

assigning a subarea in the compositing window to receive an output of said graphics pipeline; and

communicating data associated with the geometry chunk to said graphics pipeline;

wherein said graphics pipelines are configured to render the frame by spatial compositing through parallel processing, said data that defines said bounding region is less than said data associated with the geometry chunk, and the geometry chunk is different from said subarea.

Independent claim 11 has been amended in a similar manner. These features are supported throughout the specification of the present patent application and particularly at paragraph 0061.

Neither Kenworthy nor Bowen, alone or in combination, discloses, teaches, or suggests *defining a geometry chunk with a bounding region that defines an outline of the geometry chunk*; sending data that defines the bounding region to graphics pipelines; determining, from the *data that defines the bounding region*, a graphics pipeline that will render the geometry chunk; and communicating *data associated with the geometry chunk* to the graphics pipeline, wherein the data that defines the bounding region is less than the data associated with the geometry chunk.

Thus, independent claims 1 and 11 are patentable over Kenworthy in view of Bowen. Because each of claims 2, 8-10, 12-14, and 18-21 depends upon claims 1 or 11 and because of the individual distinctive features of each of claims 2, 8-10, 12-14, and 18-21, each of these claims is also patentable over Kenworthy in view of Bowen.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider claims 1, 2, 8-14, and 18-21, remove the rejections of these claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), and pass these claims to allowance.

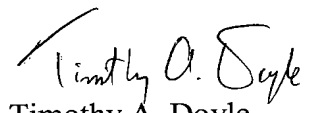
Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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